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I am attracted none the less, their variousness, their ingenuity, their élan vital, and that something, essence quiddity, I cannot penetrate or name.

Organized by Loring Randolph

June 25 – July 31
Opening June 25, 6-8pm

Casey Kaplan is pleased to announce our first summer group exhibition in the new gallery on 27th street. The title “I am attracted none the less...” introduces the unexplainable phenomena that lies at the heart of the exhibition – the notion that there is a visceral, transcendental connection that is experienced with certain images and objects. Possibly, a reason why many of us find ourselves so attracted to art.

In a humble effort to explore this power of transference and the respective ability to extend or impart this energy given materiality, process, and evocation, works were chosen by artists Ketuta Alexi-Meskhishvili, N. Dash, Jay DeFeo, Jason Dodge, Haris Epaminonda, Eloise Hawser, Dwyer Kilcollin, Nancy Lupo, Jean-Luc Moulène, David Nilson, Anna-Bella Papp, Diego Perrone, Hugh Scott-Douglas, and Phillip Zach to convey a shared tactile pull. What resulted were diverse media that possess familiar forms – of our bodies, the objects that we surround ourselves with, the landscapes of this world – yet in other respects are strange and alien. The mediation or translation across media by the artists is registered through process, material and experience, without being overt or requiring a clear connection to each of their unique lives. The works do not embrace spectacle nor do they convey easily identifiable moments in time.

Maybe for a moment, time is suspended.

The hands of the clock from the city hall in Le Havre, France have fallen from their place in the sky and lie side by side on the gallery floor. A street lamp is eternally on and a skeletal form hangs from the wall, which we know within the present, but seems to have been unearthed from Pompeii. Waterfalls position themselves in space on pause as if to defy gravity. 250 years pass before the light from Spica, the 14th brightest binary star we can see in the night sky, reaches our eyes. The earth beneath our feet is displaced to the wall and into various other forms. Koi fish find a pond within a cheek, a father from the future was standing here, and a woman stares out at us, but we are not connected somehow.

We see into a black void. The floor undulates.
Is that the moon?

The title of the exhibition is from Robert Hayden’s 1978 poem, “American Journal.” It is the wording of the last line.

For further exhibition information please contact Loring Randolph, loring@caseykaplangallery.com or Emily Epelbaum, Emily@caseykaplangallery.com. For press inquiries please contact Veronica Levitt, veronica@caseykaplangallery.com. Special thank you to Alex Fitzgerald and to all of the galleries who loaned for this exhibition.

Ketuta Alexi-Meskhishvili (1979) lives and works in Berlin, Germany. N. Dash (1980) was born in Miami Beach, Florida. She lives and works in New York and New Mexico. Jay DeFeo (1929-1989) was born in Hanover, New Hampshire. Jason Dodge (1969) was born in Newton, Pennsylvania. He lives and works in Berlin, Germany. Haris Epaminonda (1980) was born in Nicosia, Cyprus. She lives and works in Berlin. Eloise Hawser (1985) was born and works in London, United Kingdom. Dwyer Kilcollin (1983) was born in Chicago, Illinois. She lives and works in Los Angeles, California. Nancy Lupo (1983) was born in Flagstaff, Arizona. She also lives and works in Los Angeles. Jean-Luc Moulène (1955) was born in Reims, France. He lives and works in Paris. David Nilson (1982) was born in Yngsjö, Sweden. He lives and works in Malmö, Sweden. Anna-Bella Papp (1988) was born in Chişineu-Criş, Romania. She lives and works in Rome, Italy. Diego Perrone (1970) was born in Asti, Italy. He lives and works in Asti and Milan. Hugh Scott-Douglas (1988) was born in Cambridge, UK. He lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. Phillip Zach (1984) was born in Cottbus, Germany, and is currently based in Zurich, Switzerland.